

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (ORIGINAL) A method of equipment management and identifying assets for a sports team comprising the steps of:

- a. receiving equipment;
- b. affixing a barcode to said equipment;
- 5 c. identifying said equipment by scanning said barcode with a scanning device;
- d. classifying said equipment by equipment group;
- e. turning a group flag on for a potential asset group;
- f. issuing said equipment;
- g. assigning said equipment to an individual profile;
- 10 h. turning an individual flag on for an asset-creating individual profile; *turning the account on*
- i. recording the return of said equipment after an asset-creating event; *handling the book*
- j. recording the usage, in said asset-creating event, of said equipment;
- k. turning an event flag on for equipment used in said asset-creating event;
- l. determining if said equipment is now an asset by checking for a group flag, an
- 15 individual flag and an event flag;
- m. deactivating said asset.

2. (ORIGINAL) A method of equipment management and identifying assets for a sports team comprising the steps of:

- a. receiving equipment;
- b. affixing a barcode to said equipment;
- 5 c. identifying said equipment by scanning said barcode with the scanning device;
- d. classifying said equipment into a plurality of equipment groups wherein at least one of said equipment groups is a potential asset group;
- e. turning the asset flag on for said potential asset group;
- f. issuing said equipment;
- 10 g. assigning said equipment to an individual profile;

- h. turning the flag off for equipment assigned to a non-asset-creating individual profile;
- i. recording the return of said equipment after an asset-creating event;
- j. recording the usage of said equipment in said asset-creating event;
- 15 k. determining if said equipment is now an asset by checking for an asset flag turned on and use in an asset-creating event; and
- l. deactivating said asset.

3. (ORIGINAL) An improved method of managing equipment using an equipment management system capable of detecting a portable unique identifier attached to a piece of equipment and maintaining a database of individuals and the equipment issued to the individuals, the system further capable of classifying equipment into equipment groups and
 5 individuals into asset creating individuals and non-asset creating individuals the improved method comprising the steps of:

in the equipment management system,

- a. flagging a piece of equipment assigned to an asset-creating individual;
- b. documenting the occurrence of an asset-creating event; and
- 10 c. designating said piece of equipment an asset.

4. (ORIGINAL) An improved method of managing equipment using an equipment management system, according to claim 3, further comprising:

- d. making information on the occurrence of the asset-creating event as set forth in step b) retrievable through the Internet.

5 (ORIGINAL) An improved method of managing equipment using an equipment management system, according to claim 4, wherein the step of making information on the occurrence of the asset-creating event retrievable through the Internet comprises:

- e. obtaining the unique identification of the equipment; and
- 5 f. matching the unique identification of the equipment with provenance information associated with the unique identification through the Internet.

6. (NEW) A method for filtering inventory to separate assets from disposal items comprising:

associating an individual with a piece of equipment;

storing check-out data when the piece of equipment is checked out by the individual;

5 storing check-in data when the piece of equipment is returned by the individual;

classifying the piece of equipment as an asset if an asset-creating event has occurred;

and

classifying the piece of equipment as a disposal item if the piece of equipment is broken

7. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein associating the individual with the piece of equipment comprises:

determining whether the individual is a team star; and

associating the individual with the piece of equipment if the individual is a team star.

8. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein storing the check-out data when the piece of equipment is checked out by the individual comprises storing one or more of an RFID tag number, a check-out time, a check-out date, an opposing team, and an opposing player.

9. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein storing the check-in data when the piece of equipment is returned by the individual comprises storing one or more of an RFID tag number, a check-in time, a check-in date, a record achieved by the individual while the piece of equipment was checked out, and a record broken by the individual while the piece of
5 equipment was checked out.

10 (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein classifying the piece of equipment as the asset if the asset-creating event has occurred comprises classifying the piece of equipment as the asset if the individual used the piece of equipment in a game.

11. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein classifying the piece of equipment as the disposal item if the piece equipment is broken further comprises:

determining whether the piece of equipment can be repaired; and

classifying the piece of equipment as the disposal item if the piece equipment is not

5 repairable

12. (NEW) The method of claim 6 further comprising ordering a replacement piece of equipment if the piece of equipment is the asset or the disposal item.

13. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein storing the check-out data when the piece of equipment is checked out by the individual comprises storing the check-out data if the individual is a team star.

14. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein storing the check-in data when the piece of equipment is returned by the individual comprises storing the check-in data if the individual is a team star.

15. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein classifying the piece of equipment as the asset if the asset-creating event has occurred comprises classifying the piece of equipment as the asset if the individual is a team star.

16. (NEW) A method for determining the authenticity of a piece of equipment comprising:

assigning a unique identifier to each of a plurality of pieces of equipment;

storing the unique identifier for one of the pieces of equipment if the piece of

5 equipment has been used in an asset creating event;

storing profile data for the piece of equipment;

associating the profile data for the piece of equipment with the unique identifier for the piece of equipment;

receiving a query that includes the unique identifier; and

10 providing the profile data.

17. (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein storing the unique identifier for the one of the pieces of equipment if the piece of equipment has been used in the asset creating event comprises storing the unique identifier for the one of the pieces of equipment if the piece of equipment has been used by a team star.

18 (NEW) The method of claim 16 where storing the profile data for the piece of equipment comprises storing one or more of an RFID tag number, a check-out time, a check-out date, an opposing team, an opposing player, a check-in time, a check-in date, a record achieved by an individual that was using the piece of equipment while the piece of equipment was checked out, and a record broken by the individual that was using the piece of equipment while the piece of equipment was checked out.

19. (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein assigning the unique identifier to each of the plurality of pieces of equipment is performed for inventory management purposes.

20. (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein storing the profile data for the piece of equipment further comprises ordering a replacement piece of equipment.